



POLITICS

LAW AND SOCIETY MINOR

The Law and Society minor is an interdisciplinary program designed for students who wish to learn how social forces influence the legal system and how the law affects society. The Law and Society minor is open to all undergraduates. The minor helps prepare students for a wide range of professional opportunities in justice-related careers in law and related professions.

Law is central to the organization of society. It shapes what it means to be female or male, a child or adult, a citizen or non-citizen. Law determines the quality of our water and food; the rights we have to sue or be sued; how we are protected by law enforcement or from law enforcement. As the influence of legal institutions in society has grown, understanding the place of law in our social, political, economic and cultural life has become increasingly important.

The Law and Society minor is housed in the Department of Politics. Please contact any faculty member in that department for more information.

Learning Outcomes: Students who successfully complete this minor will:

- Demonstrate understanding of the interrelationships among legal, social, and ethical issues
- Demonstrate understanding of the legal process
- Critically analyze the role of law in its political, economic and social context
- Demonstrate skill in oral and written expression and critical thinking
- Integrate theoretical and practical understanding of law and society concepts

The Law and Society Minor curriculum:

Requirements: Complete 6 courses. At least 4 courses must be upper-division. The 6 courses shall include:

- One overview course
- One Domestic Justice course
- One Global Justice course
- One Skills course
- One Field Placement course
- One elective course. The elective may be an additional course from either the Domestic Justice or Global Justice lists, or a course chosen from a list of additional electives.

Overview course (Required):

- POL 107 American Legal Institutions

Domestic Justice Courses (Select one):

- BUSAD 120 Law and Business
- COMM 118 Media Law
- JC&L 120 Theory and Inquiry in Justice, Community and Leadership
- KINES 108 Legal and Administrative Issues
- POL 104 Constitutional Law
- POL 112 American Political Thought
- POL 117 American Legal Theory (new course)
- POL 136 Environmental Law
- SOC 124 Justice and Community
- SOC 128 Crime and Delinquency

Global Justice Courses (Select one):

- BUSAD 10 Global Perspectives in Business and Society
- GRS 1 Introduction to Global and Regional Studies
- JCL 140 Justice in the Global Community
- PHIL 114 Philosophy of Law
- PHIL 115 Modern Legal Philosophy
- POL 115 Theories of Justice
- POL 125 Human Rights
- SOC 135: Globalization
- TRS 117 Wealth and Poverty in the Bible

Skills Courses (Select One):

- COMM 10 Argument and Advocacy
- ENG 100 Advanced Composition
- ES 50 Creating Community: Introduction to Skills for Building a Socially Just Society
- PHIL 5 Practical Logic
- PHIL 133 The Art of Logic

Field Placement Courses (Select One):

- COM 161 Communication and Social Justice*
- ECON 100: Wealth, Poverty and Social Justice*
- JC&L 10 Introduction to Justice Community and Leadership*
- POL 110 Politics and Race*
- POL 140 Gender Politics*
- POL 195 Internship in a law-related public or private organization
- SOC 126 Field Experience in a law-related public or private organization
- SOC 195 Internship in a law-related public or private organization
- TRS 143: Catholic Social Teaching*

*Community-engagement designated courses

Elective courses (Select one): Either a second course from the list of American or Global Justice courses, or:

- BUSAD 121 Advanced Legal Topics in Business
- COMM 107 Political Communication
- COMM 100 Communication Theory
- COMM 113 Rhetorical Criticism
- COMM 116 Advertising and Civic Engagement
- ES 1 Introduction to Ethnic Studies
- POL 3 Introduction to Political Thought
- SOC 4 Social Problems
- SOC 112 Race and Identity
- SOC 115 Wealth and Poverty
- SOC 123 Ethnic Groups in the United States
- SOC 125 Gender and Society
- WGS 1 Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies